

Year	Estimated foreign exchange earnings (Rs. In crores)
1997	10725.64
1998	11950.78
1999	13041.81

(d) Various steps taken to attract foreign tourists to India include development and improvement of tourist infrastructure facilities, publicity and marketing efforts in the overseas markets through overseas tourist offices, strengthening institutions of human resources development, use of information technology and encouraging private investments in tourism sector including hotels. The development of tourism is mainly undertaken by the State Governments/UTs. However, to supplement their efforts, Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to them for the projects/schemes identified every year in consultation with them. During the year 1999-2000, an amount of Rs. 239.28 lakhs has been sanctioned to the State of Arunachal Pradesh for various projects including development of infrastructure and printing of publicity material etc.

Complaints Against M/s Apex Financial Service Pvt. Ltd., Delhi

†* 24. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, it is a fact that the complaints regarding the irregularities have been received against M/s Apex Financial Service Pvt. Ltd., Delhi;

(b) whether the income tax department had conducted investigations there into and whether the Ministry of Finance had issued any notice to the company on any aspects of irregularities; and

(c) the efforts made by Government to get the amounts of money repaid by the company to the people in view of all the above facts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Income-tax Department has not received any such complaint. however, in the income-tax assessment of the company for Assessment Year 1997-98, investment of Rs. 1.15 crores by the alleged shareholders was not found to be genuine and was held to represent company's own unaccounted money. Before coming to this conclusion notices had been issued to the company to prove the identity and credit worthiness of the shareholders.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Does not arise in view of the fact that investment by the alleged share holders has been held to be company's own unaccounted money.

Non-Clearance to the Jokadian Irrigation Project

*25. SHRI RAMCHANDRA KHUNTA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jokadian Irrigation Project on river Kharasrota and Bhimakund Project Anandpur Barrage in river Baitanahi could not be implemented for the last many years because Government did not give the clearance and necessary assistance; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the clearance and necessary assistance not being given?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI): (a) and (b) The Government of Orissa has reported that the Jokadia Irrigation Project on River Kharasrota, Bhimakund Project as well as Anandpur barrage on River Baitanahi are at present in the survey and investigation stage. As such, the question of clearance and necessary assistance of Government of India for implementation of these projects does not arise.

RBI Guidelines for Recovery of NPAs

*26. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has formulated any guidelines to recover the Non Performing Assets (NPAs) amounting to a whopping amount of Rs. 54,000 crores; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued guidelines in May 1999 for recovery of amounts outstanding in relation to Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of the small scale industries sector, small business including trading and personal segment and agricultural Sectors. The scheme of recovery outlined in these guidelines is valid till September 30, 2000. Action has been initiated by Reserve Bank of India to issue guidelines relating to recovery of outstanding amounts in NPAs covering all sectors.